Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 08389 011044Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W

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P 010800Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 538

SECRET MANILA 8389

EA ONLY

FOR GLEYSTEEN FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MARR, PINR

SUBJECT: DEFENSE ATTACHE SYSTEM STAFFING

REF: STATE 124532

- 1. I HAVE NO QUESTION AS TO THE APPROPRIATENESS OF A DAO AS PART OF THE MANILA MISSION. GIVEN THE LONG HISTORY OF CLOSE US-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE SECURITY FIELD, THE DAO IS A NATURAL MISSION COMPONENT HERE.
- 2. OUR MILITARY ATTACHES PERFORM A USEFUL REPRESENTATION FUNCTION. THEY HAVE GOOD CONTACT WITH ALL SERVICES OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, IS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE CURRENT BODY POLITIC. FURTHER, THE ATTACHES ARE OF CONSIDERABLE HELP IN THE CARE AND FEEDING OF THE THRONGS OF MILITARY VISITORS WE RECEIVE IN THE PHILIPPINES.
- 3. I AM LESS IMPRESSED WITH THE ATTACHES' OUTPUT OF SECRET

SECRET

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USEFUL REPORTING. THE PRODUCT, ON THE WHOLE, HAS BEEN PRETTY THIN, ALTHOUGH OUR MINDANAO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS HAVE BEEN AN INHIBITING FACTOR IN THIS REGARD.

4. WE RECENTLY AGREED TO A FIFTH ATTACHE OFFICER TO REPLACE AN ADMINISTRATIVE MASTER SARGEANT. WE WILL MONITOR THIS SITUATION IN THE COMING MONTHS AND WILL

MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE MODE CONTEXT, AS APPROPRIATE. UNLESS THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN ATTACHE REPORTING, I WOULD VENTURE THAT WE WILL BE SEEKING TO REDUCE DAO OFFICER STAFFING TO FOUR WITHOUT HOWEVER REINSTATING THE ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION.

5. AS CHARGE, I AM DISINCLINED TO REOPEN COST/BENEFIT ASPECTS OF THE DAO AIRCRAFT, PARTICULARLY IN A COUNTRY WHERE WE HAVE TWO AIR BASES AND THERE IS A JUSMAG AIRCRAFT TO BOOT.

6. NOTE EA ONLY CAPTION. STULL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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